

# **FALLS HISTORY PROJECT INDEX**

The Falls History Project has been ongoing since the 2001 school year. As of 2011 we have compiled nearly 500 pages of material, including 39 interviews with local residents and accompanying context. The following index to the annual projects is designed to facilitate more practical research. FHP Intern Megan Rykken (2010) did the initial work on this part of the project. Each project is listed with subject links followed by page numbers. If you have questions concerning the research, contact Paul S Rykken, project director, at [paul.rykken@brf.org](mailto:paul.rykken@brf.org).

## **2002: WORLD WAR II VETERANS (Andi Jo Cloud)**

**Interview #1: Floyd Pratt (BORN: Monroe County, WI, 1922)**

pp. 1-7 of Pratt Interview

(Time of Service: March 1942-December 1945)

- First Combat—England, Scotland, France (1)
- Mission Experience---paratrooping (1)
- Opinions and reactions to Pearl Harbor, FDR's actions, Adolf Hitler and events in Hiroshima/Nagasaki (2-3)
- The Bulge 1944 (3)
- Pearl Harbor vs. Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> (3)
- Entertainment during war (7)

**Interview #2: Vilas Johnson (BORN: Melrose, WI, 1919)**

pp. 1-3 of V. Johnson interview

(Time of Service: May 1942-February 1946)

- Oran, Africa to India 1943 (1)
- First Mission, Calcutta/Australia (1)
- CBI Experience (China Burma India Theater) (2)
- Opinion of FDR and America's actions in the war (2-3)

**Interview #3: Elmo Johnson (BORN: Irving, WI, 1916)**

pp. 1-8 of E. Johnson interview

(Time of Service: January 1945-August 1946)

- Military Training (1)
- Saipan and Iwo Jima (band) (1-2 & 3-4)
- 285<sup>th</sup> AGF Band (trumpet) (1-2)
- Memories/opinions of Pearl Harbor, Hitler, and FDR (2-3)

**Interview #4: Bob Teeples (BORN: Hatfield, WI, 1918)**

pp. 1-6 of Teeples interview

(Time of Service: October 1940-October 1945)

- National Guard and training (1)
- Australia, New Guinea, and Buna (1-2)
- Sickness and near-death experiences (2-3)
- Combat Infantry Badge (CIB) (3)
- Memories of Pearl Harbor (4)

- Opinions of Hitler, Hiroshima/Nagasaki, FDR, and Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> (4-5)

**Interview #5: Thor Rykken (BORN: Wittenberg, WI, 1924)**

pp. 1-4 of Rykken Memoir

(Time of Service: August 1943-June 1945)

- Age 17 at the time of Pearl Harbor (1)
- Induction in August of 1943, Training in Texas and Oregon (1)
- California and training as Armorer-Gunner for B-25
- Furlough to North Dakota/ Last time seeing his Father (2)
- Destination Italy (2)
- 49 Missions up the Italian Boot (2-3)
- Near grounding due to loss of engine (3)
- Adventure in Rome (4)
- Ending of the European War (4)

## **2003: BRF IN THE 1930s (Kristen Boehm Rykken)**

**Interview #1: Osborne "Ozzy" Moe (BORN: Black River Falls, WI, 1912)**

pp. 1-20

- Memories of WWI/Armistice Day (2): *Also compare to 15-16*
- Effect of Stock Market and Great Depression on family (4 and 6-7)
- Opinion of FDR (5)
- New invention—the radio (8)
- Transportation in the 30s (9-10)
- Town Businesses and the interstate (11-12)
- Neighborhood divisions and ethnicities (14-15)

**Interview #2: Robert Pratt (BORN: Black River Falls, WI, 1914)**

pp. 21-38

- Look of BRF in the '30s (22)
- Armistice Day in BRF (23)
- Schools (24 & 27)
- Stock Market crash (25)
- Roosevelt—Election, Fireside Chats (26 & 31-32)
- Military Involvement 1942, Pearl Harbor vs. Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> (30-31)

**Interview #3: Lillian McManners (BORN: Garfield Township, WI, 1917)**

pp. 39-53

- Roosevelt and Fireside Chats (40, 44)
- Rural Electrification 1937 (41)
- One-room schooling (41-42)
- Great Depression (43-44)
- Civilian Conservation Corps (45)
- Changes in Black River Falls (48-49)
- Teaching (49-52)

**Interview #4: George Brudos (BORN: Crawford County, WI, 1904)**  
pp. 54-65

- Farming (59-60)
- Roosevelt and the election of 1932 (61)
- Radios/Fireside Chats (61)
- Stock Market crash/Depression (62-63)
- Rural Electrification Association (R.E.A.) (63)

## **2004: BRF IN 1952 (Jill Janke)**

**Interview #1: Basil Holder (BORN: BRF, WI, 1934)**  
pp. 4-17

- Schooling in BRF (band and sports) (4, 9, 12)
- Depression of the late-1800s (4)
- Memories of WWII (5)
- BRF in the '40s (6)
- Downtown BRF (8)
- The 'Silent Generation' (10)
- Entertainment in BRF (10-11)
- Television (11)
- Eisenhower, WWII, and the Korean Conflict (13-14)
- Truman, McArthur, Joe McCarthy and the Red Scare (14-15)
- Native Americans in BRF (16-17)
- Understanding the '50s (17)

**Interview #2: Gene and Janet Krohn (BORN: BRF, WI, 1935 [JK])**  
pp. 18-33

- Earliest political memories—Roosevelt and WWII (18)
- Growing up in the '40s (19)
- Radio (19-20)
- WWII and BRF (20-21)
- High School/Athletics in BRF (22-24, 27-28)
- Entertainment in the '50s (25-26)
- Television (26-27)
- Eisenhower/politics (29-30)
- Korean War, Red Scare, and Joe McCarthy (30-32)
- Remembering the '50s (32)
- Appearance of BRF (32-33)

**Interview #3: Dick Faldet (BORN: Hixton, WI, 1934)**  
pp. 34-52

- Earliest political memory—Korean War (34, 37, 48)
- Radio (37)
- High School and Athletics (38-40, 42-45, 50)
- Students and Entertainment (41, 51-52)

- Eisenhower (45)
- Television (46-47)
- Red Scare and Joe McCarthy (47-48)
- Appearance of BRF (49)

**Interview #4: Sam Young (BORN: Augusta, WI, 1927)**

pp. 53-64

- Polio outbreak of 1949 (55)
- High School, Students (56-58, 63-64)
- BRF Athletics , including Native American involvement (59-61)
- Eisenhower and the Red Scare (63)

## **2005: MUSIC HISTORY IN BLACK RIVER FALLS (Kirsten Bjerke)**

**Interview #1: Axel Dressler (BORN: Munster, Germany, 1947)**

pp. 4-9

- Music Program in BRF (5)
- Personal Music History (7)
- Effect of Technology (7-8)

**Interview #2: Larry P. Hansen (BORN: Ashland, WI)**

pp. 10-22

- Career in BRF (12)
- Changes in Student Attitude (12)
- Native American Involvement (13)
- Musicals and Madrigals in BRF (14)
- Verna Keefe (15)
- Transition to the '70s (17-18)

**Interview #3: Richard Camlek (BORN: Leana, WI, 1945)**

pp. 23-33

- Early Influences (23)
- "The Notables" (24-27)
- Other local bands (27-28)
- Importance of music (29)
- Music program in BRF (30-32)

**Interview #4: Margaret Severson (BORN: Hartford, WI, 1938)**

pp. 34-42

- Early Influences (34)
- Career in BRF (35-38)
- Verna Keefe (35-36)
- Beginning of Madrigal (39)
- Falls Players (42)

**Interview #5: Dick Deno (BORN: Black River Falls, WI, 1946)**

**pp. 43-54**

- Early Influences (43-44)
- “The Exiles”, Fall’s Theater, and other gigs (44-47, 50-52)
- Influence of “The Exiles” music (47-48)
- Effect of music (50)
- Local Music (54)

## **2006: BRF, 1968, POLITICS AND PERSPECTIVE (Cory Schultz)**

**Interview #1: Bill Wilcox (BORN: River Falls, WI)**

**pp. 7-16**

- Early political influences/memories (7-8)
- BRF and politics (9)
- Barry Goldwater (9-10)
- 1968 in the US—war protests, LBJ (10-11)
- Military experience (12)
- Republicans vs. Democrats in the ‘60s (14)
- Importance of a two-party system (15)

**Interview #2: Al Lahmayer (BORN: Milwaukee, WI, 1927)**

**pp. 17-24**

- Early influences (17-18)
- Progressivism (18)
- JFK, RFK (19, 22)
- Personal Opinions—Vietnam, war protests, ‘68 election (19-22, 24)
- Environment of the ‘60s (24)

**Interview #3: Gerald Laabs (BORN: Curtis, WI)**

**p. 25-32**

- Political Atmosphere in the ‘60s (26)
- *They Marched Into Sunlight*, protests at UW-Madison (26-28)
- Politics on campus, Daily Cardinal vs. Badger Herald (29-30)
- Civil Rights Movement (31)

**Interview #4: Chris Goldsmith (BORN: Black River Falls, WI)**

**pp. 33-41**

- JFK, Vietnam (34-35, 37)
- Effect of a military death (Roger D. Goldsmith, 1967) (36-37, 40-41)
- War protests (38)
- RFK (39)
- Living in the ‘60s (39)

## **2007: NO LONGER FORGOTTEN: A HISTORY OF THE KOREAN WAR (Katie Norton)**

**Interview #1: Dr. John Noble (BORN: Shanghai, China, 1923)**

**pp. 6-19**

- **Military experience—Seoul, Medical (7, 10, 11-12)**
- **Mitchell Red Cloud and Arnold Olson (7-8, 10-11, 16-17)**
- **Personal opinions—Korean Conflict, Truman, MacArthur, Iraq (9, 16)**
- **“Forgotten War” (13)**
- **Vietnam & debates in BRF (14)**

**Interview #2: Mary Van Gorden (BORN: Black River Falls, WI, 1930)**

**pp. 20-29**

- **Military experience—Women’s Medical Specialists Corps, basic training (21-22, 25, 26, 28)**
- **Medical experience during war (23)**
- **Personal opinions---Korean Conflict, Truman, MacArthur (24)**
- **Arnold Olson (25)**

**Interview #3: Myrle Thompson (BORN: Iowa, 1929)**

**pp. 30-39**

- **Mitchell Red Cloud (32, 37)**
- **Military experience (32-33, 36)**
- **Code-Talkers (34-35, 38)**
- **Personal opinions---Korean Conflict (36)**

**Interview #4: Richard Piette (BORN: Hinckley, MN, 1924)**

**pp. 40-51**

- **Personal opinions---FDR, Pearl Harbor, Truman, MacArthur (42, 45)**
- **Military experience---Visual Communications, LCU Squadron (43-45, 47, 49)**
- **Testing the H-Bomb (46-47)**
- **Cuban Missile Crisis (48)**
- **Kymori (51)**

**#5: Bio of Arnold Olson (BORN: Black River Falls, WI)**

**p. 52**

- **POW during Korean war**
- **Died October 25<sup>th</sup>, 1951 in Chang Song, North Korea**

## **2008: “MEET ME AT THE FAIR!” (Max Hart)**

**Interview #1: Bob and Jeanine Capaul (BORN: Alma Center, WI and Eau Claire, WI)**

**pp. 5-18**

- **Early memories of the fair (5, 6-7)**
- **Involvement in the fair (5-6)**

- The Pavilion, dormitories, the grandstand and consignment auctions (7, 8, 9, 17)
- History about the fair (night-time, etc.) (10)
- Showing cattle (11-12, 15-16)

**Interview #2: Jerome Laufenberg (BORN: Black River Falls, WI, 1952)**

pp. 19-26

- Involvement with fair (19)
- Meaning and importance of the fair (20, 26)
- Beef superintendent (20-21)
- History of fairgrounds (p. 21)
- Clubs/Groups (FFA and 4-H) (21-22)
- The fairgrounds---a future of construction and controversy (23-25)

**Interview #3: Norman and Margie Johnson (BORN: St. Paul, MN, 1927 and Irving, WI, 1929)**

pp. 27-42

- Early Experiences at the fair (27, 28-29)
- Showing cattle (28, 31, 35, 41)
- The Pavilion (33)
- Clubs/Groups (FFA and 4-H) (37)
- History of the fair (38-40)

**Interview #4: Lillian Hart (BORN: Caledonia, MN, 1927)**

pp. 43-51

- Early memories of 4-H and the fair (43, 44)
- Showing (44)
- Major changes (45)
- The Pavilion, the polio epidemic, and 4-H (45-46, 48)
- Importance of the fair (47-48, 50)

**2009: VOICES FROM THE 60s: INTEGRATION AND THE BRF PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
(Alex Zank)**

**Interview #1: Larry Garvin**

pp. 6-14

- The Mission (6, 12)
- First integrated experience (6)
- Emma Olson (7)
- Students relationships (Native and Non-native) (8)
- Participation in school (9)
- Planning for after High School (10)
- Opinion of integration (11)

**Interview #2: Sadie (Winneshiek) Garvin**

pp. 15-27

- School experience and family influence (pp. 15-16, 19) (16, 17-18)
- Integration into schools (17-18)
- Student relationships and involvement in school (19-20)
- Financial situations and per cap (21, 25)
- Obama (26-27)

**Interview #3: Tina Boisen**

pp. 28-36

- Personal background and schooling (28-30)
- Relationship between the HS and Native community (30-31)
- Attitudes of students and Native identity (31-32, 34)
- Economic aspects and gaming (32)
- Relationships between students and teachers (35)
- Obama (35)
- Importance of extra-curricular activities (36)

**E-mail Interview: Nancy Lurie**

pp. 37-42

- School history (38)
- Ho-chunk attitudes towards education (39)
- Effects of Mission Community school closing (39)
- Speaking the language (39-40, 41)
- Integration and its criticisms (Mitchell Whiterabbit) (40)
- Politics of the '50s (41, 42)

**Interview #5: Paul Rykken**

pp. 43-50

- Bethany Mission, Wittenberg, WI (43)
- Connection to BRF Mission school (44)
- Mitchell Whiterabbit's influence (44)
- Integration (44, 47)
- Students (elementary, middle school, and high school) and teachers (44-46, 47-48)
- Native American-White friendships (46)
- Political history (47)
- Culture and teaching in the schools (48-50)

**2010: BRF AND THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR EXPERIENCE (Levi Miles)**

- Overview and introduction to the project (2-5)
- Military Terms (5)
- Company G of the 10<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry (6)
- Roster of Company G (7-11)
- List of Notable Battles Company G Participated In From 1862-64 (12)
- Obituaries and Burial Locations of Company G Soldiers (13)



- The Battle of Perryville (14-20)
- Final Notes on the Research (21)

## **2011: BRF IN 1875: SPAULDING AND THE REMOVAL EPISODE (Erick Conrad)**

- Preface, Focus, and Acknowledgements (2-4)

### **CHAPTER 1: The Role of Jacob Spaulding in Early Black River History (5-11)**

- Spaulding's early years and the establishment of the settlement (5-6)
- BRF in the 1840s and 50s (6-7)
- Spaulding elder years and the story of the 1873-74 removal of the Ho-chunk (8-10)
- Commentary on sources related to Spaulding (11)

### **CHAPTER 2: Anna Rae Funmaker Interview (12-24)**

- Introduction and context of the interview (12)
- Funmaker's early years and elementary school at the Mission (12-14)
- High School graduation, college, US Air Force, and further education (14-16)
- Ho-chunk Removal of 1873-74: Experience of her grandfathers (16-18)
- Ho-chunk desire to stay in Wisconsin: Commentary on resilience (18-20)
- Handling the removal story in our classrooms? (20-21)
- Commentary on Spaulding and non-native involvement (21-22)
- Comments on preservation of language and education (22-23)
- Tragic connection of Ho-chunk to Sioux Uprising in Minnesota (24)

### **CHAPTER 3: Spaulding's Funeral (25-38)**

- Introduction of research and overview (25)
- Part 1: In Search of Spaulding: Early life to 1839 (26-28)
- Part 2: Spaulding, the Elder (28-30)
- The mystery of Spaulding's connection with the Ho-chunk (28)
- Spaulding's actions fighting the Ho-chunk removal (29-30)
- Concluding Commentary (30-31)
- Speculation on Spaulding's motivations (30-31)
- Appendix A: Newspaper editorials related to the removal (32-36)
- Appendix B: Statement from Winneshiek to Governor Fairchild (36)
- Appendix C: Spaulding Obituaries (37-38)
- Picture of Spaulding's grave at Riverside Cemetery in BRF (39)

### **CHAPTER 4: Missionary Work Among Native People in Wisconsin (40-46)**

- Context : Norwegian Lutheran Missions in Wisconsin: Bethany Mission (40)
- Background on T.M. Rykken, Missionary in Wittenberg (41)
- Talk given by T.M. Rykken at civic gathering (c. 1927 or 1928) (42-46)
- Background history to Bethany Mission (42)
- History of Ho-chunk mistreatment at the hands of the government (42-43)
- History of Bethany Mission, 1884 to WW 1 period (43-44)
- Role of the Women's Missionary Federation (WMF) (44)
- Thanks offered for support of the Mission, further work (45-46)